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ICE CREAM PRODUCTION

MARCH 1956

Based upon reports from manufacturers, the estimate of ice cream production for March was set by the Agricultural Marketing Service at 51,015,000 gallons -- 1 percent more than the March output last year and 20 percent more than the 5-year, 1950-54, average for the month. This was a sharp drop in relation to a year earlier, since the February output was 19 percent and the January output was 13 percent above the corresponding month in 1955. However, this March's production was the largest for the month with the exception of March 1946. Computed on a daily average basis, production rose 3 percent from February to March, compared with an advance of 22 percent a year ago and an average increase of 8 percent between these months during 1950-54. Relatively cold wet weather prevailed during March over much of the Country east of the Mississippi River, in most West North Central States, and in the Pacific Northwest. In the first quarter of 1956, ice cream output was 10 percent larger than that of the same period of 1955 and was 21 percent above the January-March, 1950-54, average. The percentage of butterfat in ice cream made this March averaged 11.5, the same as in February and also the same as in March last year.

Gains in production from March last year occurred in all sections of the Country except the Atlantic Seaboard. Output held about steady in the North Atlantic States, but decreased 3 percent in the South Atlantic, where sharp losses were reported from Virginia and North Carolina. Increases in Pennsylvania and New Jersey offset decreases in the remaining North Atlantic states. The gains in the other regions were all moderate. Production was up only 2 percent in the East North Central States, with only Ohio reporting a loss. Decreases in Minnesota and the Dakotas were more than countered by increases in the other West North Central States and that region as a whole had an increase of 5 percent. Output was down in Tennessee and Alabama, although it was up 4 percent in the South Central Region. In the West, production was 3 percent larger than a year earlier in the Mountain States and was about 5 percent larger in the Pacific States. In the three leading ice cream-producing states, output increased 6 percent from March last year in Pennsylvania and 4 percent in California, but decreased 3 percent in New York.

Compared with the 5-year, 1950-54, average for March, ice cream production was larger in all regions, the gains ranging from 12 percent in the Mountain States to 23 percent in the South Atlantic.

UNITED STATES PRODUCTION OF ICE CREAM BY MONTHS, JAN. - MAR. 1956 WITH COMPARISONS

MONTH	1950-54 AVERAGE*	1954*	ESTIMATED		CHANGE FROM:	
			1955	1956	1950-54 Av.	1955
			Thousand Gallons		Percent	
January	34,512	33,814	36,855	41,540	+ 20	+ 13
February	36,013	38,267	37,120	44,180	+ 23	+ 19
March	42,664	46,133	50,285	51,015	+ 20	+ 1
THREE MONTH TOTAL	113,189	118,214	124,260	136,735	+ 21	+ 10

SHERBET PRODUCTION

Production of sherbet during March, estimated at 2,090,000 gallons was down 10 percent from the March output a year ago, but was 37 percent above the average for the month in the 5-year period, 1950-54. On a daily average basis, production rose 24 percent between February and March this year, compared with an advance of 58 percent at this season last year and an average gain of 25 percent between these months during 1950-54.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

JUN 15 1956

UNITED STATES PRODUCTION OF SHERBET BY MONTHS, JAN. - MAR. 1956 WITH COMPARISONS

MONTH	1950-54 AVERAGE*	1954*	ESTIMATED		CHANGE FROM:	
			1955	1956	1950-54 Av.	1955
			Thousand Gallons		Percent	
January	973	1,258	1,195	1,470	+ 51	+ 23
February	1,108	1,519	1,320	1,580	+ 43	+ 20
March	1,521	2,178	2,310	2,090	+ 37	- 10
THREE MONTH TOTAL	3,602	4,955	4,825	5,140	+ 43	+ 7

* From enumerations.

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF ICE CREAM: MARCH 1956 WITH PREVIOUS YEARS

STATE AND GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	5-YEAR MARCH AVERAGE 1950-54 *	MARCH			PERCENT CHANGE IN MARCH 1956 PRODUCTION FROM:	
		1954 *	1955	1956	5-YEAR AVERAGE	MARCH 1955
		Thousand Gallons			Percent	
Massachusetts	1,538	1,754	1,750	1,570	+ 2	- 10
Connecticut	547	622	635	540	- 1	- 15
New York	4,306	4,895	5,250	5,100	+ 18	- 3
New Jersey	928	1,191	1,240	1,350	+ 45	+ 9
Pennsylvania	5,047	5,541	5,910	6,260	+ 24	+ 6
Other N.A. States ...	659	763	765	725	+ 10	- 5
NO. ATLANTIC STATES	13,025	14,766	15,550	15,545	+ 19	0
Ohio	2,657	2,958	3,225	3,100	+ 17	- 4
Indiana	1,343	1,444	1,720	1,750	+ 30	+ 2
Illinois	2,296	2,089	2,460	2,660	+ 16	+ 8
Michigan	1,933	2,137	2,260	2,300	+ 19	+ 2
Wisconsin	1,204	1,405	1,460	1,560	+ 30	+ 7
E.N. CENTRAL STATES	9,433	10,033	11,125	11,370	+ 21	+ 2
Minnesota	990	1,133	1,185	1,145	+ 16	- 3
Iowa	819	922	1,010	1,160	+ 42	+ 15
Missouri	1,197	1,178	1,330	1,420	+ 19	+ 7
N. & S. Dakota	297	317	305	290	- 2	- 5
Nebraska	445	487	485	530	+ 19	+ 9
Kansas	501	539	575	580	+ 16	+ 1
W.N. CENTRAL STATES	4,249	4,576	4,890	5,125	+ 21	+ 5
District of Columbia	513	463	465	450	- 12	- 3
Maryland	682	812	880	880	+ 29	0
Virginia	757	845	950	850	+ 12	- 11
West Virginia	387	383	440	535	+ 38	+ 22
North Carolina	994	1,184	1,380	1,180	+ 19	- 14
Georgia	548	602	600	640	+ 17	+ 7
Florida	1,038	1,170	1,620	1,585	+ 53	- 2
Other S.A. States ...	328	344	335	330	+ 1	- 1
SO. ATLANTIC STATES	5,247	5,803	6,670	6,450	+ 23	- 3
Tennessee	881	973	1,170	1,090	+ 24	- 7
Alabama	537	627	760	625	+ 16	- 18
Louisiana	557	639	760	780	+ 40	+ 3
Oklahoma	446	385	460	480	+ 8	+ 4
Texas	1,700	1,501	1,570	1,860	+ 9	+ 18
Other S.C. States ...	795	855	980	1,080	+ 36	+ 10
SO. CENTRAL STATES	4,916	4,980	5,700	5,915	+ 20	+ 4
Colorado	420	423	440	440	+ 5	0
Other Mt. States	937	1,018	1,040	1,080	+ 15	+ 4
MOUNTAIN STATES	1,357	1,441	1,480	1,520	+ 12	+ 3
Washington	676	742	670	750	+ 11	+ 12
Oregon	464	443	465	440	- 5	- 5
California	3,297	3,349	3,735	3,900	+ 18	+ 4
PACIFIC STATES	4,437	4,534	4,870	5,090	+ 15	+ 5
UNITED STATES	42,664	46,133	50,285	51,015	+ 20	+ 1

* From enumerations.